WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1852.

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

BY MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

In two volumes of 312 pages each. For thrilling delineation of character, and

power of description, this work is unrivalled. t has been denominated, and with truth, THE STORY OF THE AGE! The fact that ten thou sand copies have been sold in two weeks is ev dence sufficient of its unbounded popularity. Three paper mills are constantly at work. manufacturing the paper, and three power presses are working twenty-four hours per day, in printing it, and more than one hundred bookbinders are incessantly plying their trade to bind them, and still it has been impossible as yet to supply the demand. Testimonials of the strongest kind, numerous enough to fill a volume, have already appeared in the public ournals. We have room only for the following, from the Congregationalist of the 2d inst.

We conceive, then, that in writing Uncle Tom's Cabin. Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe has done more to diffuse real knowledge of the facts and workings of American Slavery, and to arouse the sluggish nation to shake off the curse, and abute the wrong, than has been accomplished by all the orations and anniversa ries, and arguments, and documents, which the last ten years have been the witness of. Let nobody be afraid of it because it does not claim to be a memoir, or a table of statistics. It is the interlacing of a thousand memoirs, and the very quintessence of infinite statistics. It takes no extreme views. It does not seek to seize upon the most horrible atrocities, and brand the whole system as worse than it is. It is fair and generous, and calm, and candid. A slave-holder might read it without anger, but not easily without a secret abhorrence of the system which he himself upholds. It brings out, quietly and collaterally, those incidental fea-tures of servitude which are usually little thought of but which are the overflow of its cup of abominations. We look upon the wricup of abominations. We look upon the writing of this book as providential, and upon it as the best missionary God has yet sent into the field to plead for his poor and oppressed children at the South. Such a book was a necessity of the age, and had to be written, and we are grateful to God that he put the writing o t into the hands of one who has interwover narrative, and compressed many a Gospel ser-mon into its field and fireside converse. Its ap-peal to our sympathies is genuine. It artlessly ctures facts, and the facts make us feel. W have never read a story of more power. We doubt if anybody has. The human being who can read it through with dry eyes, is com-

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WHAT VIRGINIA

A report lately made to the Senate by the Committee on Claims, upon the petition of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Company, in Virginia, discloses some curious facts.

The object of the petition is to induce Congress to pay to the Railroad Company one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, being the Donald, Me.; McMullen, Va.; Mcade, Va.; ed and twenty thousand dollars, being the sum which Virginia in 1789 agreed to pay to the General Government, in consideration of the establishment of the Seat of Government Del.; Robbins, Pa.; Robinson, Ia.; Ross, Pa. on the banks of the Potomac. Virginia does Savage, Tenn.; Scurry, Texas; D. L. Seymou not present this claim for re-payment directly. N. Y. She has assigned her claim-and the Gardiner or Galphin claim was not more baseless-to the Railroad Company, in whose behalf it is

The report of the committee goes fully into the history of the establishment of the Seat of Government. It appears that its location on the Potomac was the first of those compromises between Slavery and Capital, which have so

The representatives of money capital, chiefly from the North, under the lead of Alexander Hamilton were extremely anxious in 1789 to induce Congress to assume and fund the State debts. This was resisted strenuously by the representatives of the slave capital. At that time and on that occasion the representatives of money threatened secession and dissolution. The representatives of slavery heard those threats unmoved; and, aided by the Northern opponents of money capital, rejected the as-

Hamilton, under these circumstances, appealed to Southern gentlemen to save the asumption bill, and thus save the Union.

They took the appeal very coolly. It was said upon conference that some mutual concessions could be suggested as the basis of a compromise which would save the Union. The conference took place. Congress had previously determined to establish the permanent Seat of Government in Pennsylvania. A bill with this object had passed both Houses, but had failed in consequence of a disagreement as to some matters of detail at a late period of the session. The slave States had contended earnestly for a location on the Potomac, and were greatly discontented with the prospect that it would be fixed in a free State. They foresaw, and later experience has abundantly demonstrated what vast advantages the slave interest would derive from the possession of the Seat of Government.

Under these circumstances it was not diffi-cult to find a basis for a compromise. Free-State representatives were found to vote for fixing the Seat of Government on the Potomac, and slave-State representatives to vote for the assumption of the State debts. In conformity with this arrangement, a bill fixing the Seat of Government on the Potomac was matured in Government on the Potomac was matured in the Senate, passed that body, and received the sanction of the House. The bill for the assumption of State debts was revived in the House, and finally became a law.

Virginia and Maryland had each agreed to contribute, Virginia one hundred and twenty, and Maryland seventy-two thousand dollars. towards erecting the public buildings, provided Congress should establish the Seat of Government on the Potomac, in either State, or so as to include parts of both

This was no extraordinary liberality. New York and Pennsylvania had furnished accommodations for the Government, gratuitously, while its seat was within their limits. Baltimore offered to defray the entire expense of the necessary buildings, should that city be selected. The bill proposing to establish the Seat of Government in Pennsylvania, which came so near to become a law, had required, as a condition precedent, the payment for the same purnose of one hundred thousand dollars by the

The Seat of Government was established on some delays, paid the stipulated money. With- 35 Northern Democrats, how their necks to the

The facts which attended the establishment of the national capital in the midst of slavery have the effect of causing some of the comfurnish an illustration equally remarkable of plaisant gentlemen who voted aye, to vacate ought to be abated, if it can be. How shall it proved in the Northern States.

Those who desire further information on this subject can consult Senate Document No. 59, gress. 32d Congress, first session, and the first volume of Hildreth's History, second series.

NEW YORK .- The Whig members of the Silver Gray" Whigs did not attend.

On the 8th inst., the Democratic Convention d Onedia, and John Skinner, of Wyoming, delonvention.

THE COMPROMISE A FINALITY.

On Monday, the 5th instant, the Compromise resolutions were called up in the House of Representatives. Similar resolutions were introduced into the Democratic caucus at the and limitation in this direction, it has certainly hells be kept apart till they are redeemed. ommencement of the session, but were de-

Mr. Jackson, of Georgia, first offered one, to which Mr. Hillyer, from the same State, offered, as an addition, the following-being the same as the one rejected in the Democratic aucus, held at the opening of the session :
"Resolved, That the series of acts passed dur-

ng the first session of the thirty-first Congress. known as the Compromises, are regarded as a final adjustment, and a permanent settlement of the questions therein embraced, and should e maintained and executed as such. This resolution was adopted by a vote of

103 to 74. After several unsuccessful attempts to adjourn, the vote was then taken upon the resolution originally offered by Mr. Jackson, which was as follows:

"Resolved. That we recognise the binding effi-

ency of the Compromises of the Constitution; and we believe it to be the determination of the People generally, as we hereby declare it to be ours individually, to abide by such compromises, and to sustain the laws necessary to carry them out—the provision for the delivery of fugitive slaves, and the act of the last Congress for that purpose, included; and that we leprecate all further agitation of the queson of slavery, as unnecessary, useless, and dangerous."
This resolution was adopted—yeas 101, nays

64. The following is an analysis of the vote YEAS.

Whigs.—Messrs. William Appleton, Mass. Bowie, Md.; Brooks, N. Y.; E. C. Cabell, Fla. Dockery, N. C.; Ewing, Ky.; Faulkner, Va.; Gentry, Tenn.; Grey, Ky.; Haws, N. Y.; Haven, N. Y.; Landry, La.; Martin, N. Y.; Miller, Mo.; J. Moore, La.; Morehead, N. C.; Temperance men are not ignorant of this, and Outlaw, N. C.; S. W. Parker, Ind.; Schermerhorn, N. Y.; Strother, Va.; Walsh, Maryland, Ward, Ky.; Watkins, Tenn.; Addison White Democrats.—Messrs. Williams, Tenn.—27 Bayly, Va.; Bocock, Va.; Bragg, Ala.; Breck-

inridge, Ky.; A. G. Brown, Miss.; Busby, Ohio; Caskie, Va.; Clark, Iowa; Cobb, Ala.; Curtis, Pa.; Daniel, N, C.; J. G. Davis, Ia.; Dawson, Dunham, Ia., Edmundson, Va.; Ficklin Fitch, Ia.; Florence, Pa.; Freeman, Miss.; D. Fuller, Me.; Gamble, Pa.; Gorman, Hall, Mo.; Hamilton, Md.; Hammond, Md.; Hart, N. Y.; Hendricks, Ia.; Henn, Iowa; Hibbard, N. H.; Hillyer, Geo.; Houston Ala.; Howard, Texas; Ingersoll, Conn.; Jackson, Geo.; A. Johnson, Tenn.; J. Johnson, Geo.; G. W. Jones, Tenn.; Kurtz, Pa., Letcher, Va.; Lockhart, Ia.; E. C. Marshall, Cal.; H. Mar-Murray, N. Y.; Nabors, Miss.; Peaslee, N. H. Penn, La.; Phelps, Mo.; Polk, Tenn.; Price, tions, but the supposed necessity for the most N. J.; William A. Richardson, Ill.; Riddle, engeful and appropriate forms. To us, the prospect is not promising. The Y.; O. S. Seymour, Conn; Smith, Ala.; F. Stanton, Tenn.; R. H. Stanton, Ky.; A. I. Stevens, N. Y.; Stone, Ky.; St. Martin, La.; Stuart, Mich.; Sutherland, N. Y.; G. W. Thompson, Va.; Venable, N. C.; Wilcox, Mis-

Whigs.—Messrs. Altison, Pa.: Barrere, Ohio; Brenton, Ia.; G. H. Brown, N. J.; L. D. Campbell, Ohio; Chapman, Conn.; Clingman, N. C.; Fowler, Mass.; Me. Goodrich, Mass.; Harper, Ohio; Hors ford, N. Y.; T. M. Howe, Pa.; John Johnson Ohio: Kubns, Pa : Meacham, Vt.: Miner, Vt. Newton, Ohio; Penniman, Mich.; Perkins, N H. Sackett, N. Y.; Schooleraft, N. Y.; Scudder, Mass.; Benj. Stanton, Ohio; Benj. Thomp-son, Mass.; Walbridge, N. Y.; Washburn,

Democrats.—Messrs. Aiken, S. C.; Ashe, N.; Averett, Va.; D. J. Bailey, Geo.; Bartlett, Vt. : Buell, N. Y. : Jos. Cable, Ohio : T. Campbell, Ill. : Dean, N. Y. : Doty, Wis. : Eastman, Wis.; Edgerton, Ohio; Floyd, N. Y.; Gaylord, Ohio; Grow, Pa.; Holladay, Va.; Ives, N. Y.; Jenkins, N. Y.; D. T. Jones, N. Y.; Preston, King, N. Y.; McQueen, S. C.; Millson, Va.; Molony, Ill.; Orr, S. C.; Powell, Va.; Rantoul, Mass.; Smart, Me.; Stratton, N. J.; Sweetser, Ohio; Wallace, S. C.; Woodward, S. C .- 31. Free-Soilers .- Durkee, Wis. ; Mann, Mass. Tuck, N. H .- 3.

RECAPITULATION.

Northern Whigs Southern Whigs 20 Southern Democrats 39 27 Total

Northern Whigs 29 | Northern Democrats 21 Southern Whigs

ABSENT.
Whigs.—Messrs. James Abercrombie, Ala Hiram Bell, Ohio; Henry Bennett, N. Y. M. Bibighaus. Pa.; Obadiah Bowne, N. John H. Boyd, N. Y.; George Briggs, N. ler Evans, Md. : Henry M. Fuller, Pa. ; J. R. Giddings, Ohio; A. P. Hascall, N. Y.; Wm Hebard, Vt.; John W. Howe, Pa.; William F Hunter, Ohio : Gilchrist, Porter, Mo. : Edward Stanly, N. C.; A. H. Stephens, Ga.; T. Stevens, Pa.; J. L. Taylor, Ohio; R. Toombs, Ga.;

John Welch, Ohio-34. S. C.; D. K. Cartter, Ohio; E. W. Chastain, Ga.; W. M. Churchwell, Tenn.; C. F. Cleveland, Conn.; William F. Colcock, S. C.; J. S. Cottman, Md.; M. M. Dimmick, Pa.; David T. Disney, Ohio; Alfred Gilmore, Pa.; F. W. Green, Ohio; Isham G. Harris, Tenn.; S. W. Harris, Ala.: Thomas Y. Howe, jan. N. Y.; R. W. Johnson, Ark.: J. G. Jones, Pa.: George G. King, R. I.: D. Mace, Ia.: James X. Me-Lanahan, Pa.; John McNair, Pa.; Henry D. Moore, Pa.; John H. Morrison, Pa.; Charles Murphy, Ga.; E. B. Olds, Ohio; A. Parker, Pa.; Reuben Robie, N. Y.; Jos. Russell, N. Y.;
M. Schoonmaker, N. Y.; Charles Skelton, N. J.
W. W. Snow, N. Y.; B. B. Thurston, R. I.; N.
S. Townshend, Ohio; Isaac Wildrick, N. J.

Linn Boyd, Ky., Speaker-68. Of whom there were— Northern Democrats, 24 | Northern Whigs, 23 outhern Democrats, 10 | Southern Whigs, 11

Democrats - 34 Whigs - 34

Here we have the vote of the Representa tives of the People, re-enacting in a solemn manner that Bill of Abominations, the Fugipudent exaction. They will not make the Fa- yet, nor felt all the force legitimately within It is a remarkable illustration of chivalry, gitive Slave Law a whit more palatable to the

money capital, nominally for the safety of the for truer Representatives of the will of their doing of it, which ought not to be done? Union, but really for the perpetuation of their constituents. We ask the People to study this power, joint or several, over labor and the laagain called upon to exercise the elective fran-

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.

The tide is against it. In some of the Legisegislature held a meeting at Albany on the been defeated, in others it drags. Within the scarcely an equal, either for importance or difnot been so simplified and demonstrated as to serve for popular creed and criticism in the disough: but the ethical and governmental

A large party of the friends of legal prohimay be a plain question in the conduct of pri- is gone. The ministry may begin its services others, it is admitted that adequate powers do their regular jurisdiction. If the "rum-sellers' as growing out of that act of the last Con- not always accompany the highest and noblest gress, known as the Compromise act, and of aims. Providence waits upon the world in its puestions generally connected with the institu- wretchedness and wickedness, under a necessity that arises out of the constitution of things. Civil government stands as the agent and exponent of that Providence to the People, and must be wise both in doing and forbearing, if it could be successful to any good end. Not every immediate good which might be embraced by pains and penalties is therefore to be put upon the statute-book of the State. the cause. But have they hit the heart of sault upon the ecclesiastics. the question !

General consent and the authority of precedent are cited for the principle of limitation which is supposed to lurk, even in the present license laws; but this is not clear. The power to regulate often means the power to prohibit; but it as often signifies the patronage and nur- now will be a long postponement. More petising care of the subject-matter. The exercise of the learned professions, and the powers of the general elections, party questions will crosspublic office, are forbidden to all but the select cut it, so that it will not have possession of all and elect, out of solicitude for the best ministry in them. Good moral character and the however it may be mingled with the machinery approbation of an examining board are pre- of party politics. The zeal of its friends will liminaries to the issuing of diplomas alike to force it into the strifes of next autumn; and it physicians, lawyers, and "rum-sellers." Not will have to meet its foes embittered or tricareful and competent functionaries, and the avoidance of the avoidable abuses that hang its back, now that it can make or break a hope about them, may be inferred from one as well for them. Temperance will not be as decent a as the other of these instances. The words of thing when it shall have gone through one tice under it, and are fairly construed to ap-

ssue is made up on the point, Is alcohol a poimake this the question, with the opposition-But it seems to us, that even if the affirmative were granted by the enemy, the battle is not be unavailable, for want of the suasion and the nearly ended. Poison administered with the intent to destroy life-with that as the end- are not to be surrendered to penalties and with the legal malice aforethought, express or stripe for all that. If moral suasion has failed, implied, is a proper subject for prohibition law will fail worse; for law rests in opinion. and punishment, in the principal criminal and Therefore, again, we do not believe it; for we in the accessories before and after the fact. are assured of the better time coming, and the But the proposed prohibitory law covers the primary and ultimate reliance of that hope is sale and use in cases where this deliberate pur. in the regeneration of men. Still, the Maine pose of destruction cannot be supposed; nay, so long as there are any who can drink very mode. is right, there is no good objection to the force rately, and manage to do so for years together, they and those who might manufacture stimulants for their use, cannot be supposed to be more than any other element of progress in even indifferent to the evils of the ordinary this matter. And very probably that light traffic, at least, cannot be put into the category | will come; and when it comes, who will accept of criminal negligence, so as to bring them within the sweep of legal penalties, under the 7 | Northern Democrats 35 | principle that holds the keeper of a vicious dog, and the workman who throws a billet of The Jews rejected their Messiah because be wood into a crowded street, responsible for the resulting mischief.

We say, that the argument from legal precedent fails from defect of parallelism in mate-

1 Southern Democrats 10 rial points between the cases placed upon the principle which must support his reply: it. And on this point we wish also to say, that it is not enough that the highest legal tribunal in the country has decided that State laws prohibiting the traffic are not contrary to the Constitution of the Federal Government. Only some things held to be inconsistent with the reserved liberties of the People are forbidden by the National Constitution to the States, and so protected from abuse. The question still remains, Is it right, in point of principle

and policy, whether constitutional or not? The world will be wiser by the time this prol lem is solved, and the solution is received and incorporated into the system of political sci-

ed by the individual to society : but it is on the contrary largely re-enforced from the reciprocal life of the Commonwealth. The virtual cal life of the Commonwealth. The virtual unity of all the members of society in one political person, brings the legal right to the support of the moral duty of protecting our neighbors as ourselves; and we are strengthened and enlarged in all our rights and duties concerning ourselves and our fellow men. The protection of rights and interests against wrongdoers, by whatsoever means are necessary and expedient, is not questionable; but the distance into the moral and spiritual life of the individual which we may justly and wisely carry the agencies of force is the point to be ascertained. Education, literary, scientific, and religious, is matter of social duty; it does not restrain the liberty or interfere with the natural discipline of the life, by a compulsion which takes away the Potomac. Maryland and Virginia, with tive Slave Law. Seven Northern Whigs, and responsibility and the developing power of it. Where is the limit? How far do the rights of in a few years past, Virginia has regained, by yoke, and obey a "higher law" than the will society reach into the life of the individual the cession of the United States, all the ter- of their constituents. That they have tran- man! The Governments of the earth are not ritory she ceded; and now she comes, through seended their powers, none will doubt. The without the truth and right of principle in his opposition in 1849 to "the system by which a Railroad Company, and asks back the money resolutions are useless, unnecessary, and an im-

to us to be good for nothing at all. We are and have therefore given the Senate printing chise in sending members to the National Con- perhaps not well posted up; but we have seen to the Republic, and the House printing to the heart of the liquor party, in the course of such of Kentucky, Haven, and Truman Smith, it is discussion as the question has received. The said, voted in favor, and Hamlin and Borland sermons of the saints are bad enough; but we against the new contract. latures that have been engaged upon it, it has have no patience with those of the sinners. Their accursed trade is the disgrace of our civth inst., and adopted resolutions in favor of last week the general election of Connecticut ilization. The best of them do nothing to dicott for the Presidency—yeas 50, nay 1. The has gone constructively against it, and the vorce themselves from the very worst, and Pennsylvania Legislature, after cutting it down never appear in the affray but to parade their nished in the case of Horace Preston, who was to a thirty-gallon law in the Senate, has killed decencies and their interests, by way of cover djourned, after appointing Horatio Seymour, it on the first vote in the lower House. There for the crew which they refuse to be classed movement is one of surpassing interest. It with. Out upon them. Let honest, true, hugates for the State at large to the Baltimore would be hard to find a subject of greater mo- man men, who have not forfeited their places ment to the community than the special one in the brotherhood of humanity, settle the diffiinvolved; and the broad principle into which culty decently. We do not call prisoners and the proposed prohibitory legislation rises, has paupers into council when we charge ourselves with the reformation and remedy of their ficulty. If the function of political govern- wickedness and wretchedness. We suffer with ment is so clearly known as to fix its jurisdiction | them, and must suffer for them; but let the Our temperance friends in New York began

this agitation and effort with the open and forion. The debate has kept ends and objects | mal acknowledgment that moral suasion fairly very clearly in view, for both parties that are ac- tried-tried under as fair circumstances as tively in the field see immediate results plainly can be hoped for, and for a sufficient length of time—has failed and cannot be relied upon. principles concerned in the contemplated legal | Had they well considered that position before enactments are not so plainly and effectively they took it? It is to be hoped they had; for arrayed as they must be before the question shall be finally settled, and the public mind at the faith once so confidently held in the power of the word has well nigh slipped out of the creed of reform. A still greater conbition of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, con- cession has been made to the necessity of force, tent themselves with the reasons to be found in in the action of the pulpit, the Protestant the evils of intemperance, and the infinite good | pulpit at least, by the clergy coming out of the promised in its suppression. This is ground church to reform the world in a matter of broad enough for reformatory association and morals, through the agency of penal laws. This moral suasion; but the matter of legal coercion is not a union of Church and State, but a surrests upon quite other considerations. Duty in render of the Church to the State. A few more the restraint of wrong and furtherance of right such, and its office in the affairs of this world vate life; but in the exercise of authority over at our funerals, if our actual life has escaped are really averse to union of Church and State. they may console themselves; for so far as this movement goes, it is a confession that the Church is dead, and that the State survives, having taken an advance step in the care and government of its subjects. We do not object to religion in law, or to life in religion. need a morality to live in and by. The existing provision for dying is sufficient. We do not object to clergymen for doing the duties of citizenship-we demand it from them. We were only thinking of the inferences, and the blunder of the enemy in the mode of their as-

Another point: The movement, it seems to us, is not likely to acquire strength by agitation now. The subject is not so new as to need or to gain by popular excitement. The prohibitory law has the advantage of all the enthusiasm belonging to it at the start. Its failure tioners than voters can be mustered for it. At its proper force there; and that will be the case cause must bear the burden of its friends upon the license in all the cases authorize the prac- campaign as it is now. A great many goodfor-nothing people fasten themselves upon a good cause that gets along well, and its credit suffers accordingly. There are quantities of absurdities to be enacted by the greatest fools

on ! The Tribune, for instance, endeavors to among us, before the law becomes universal. For ourselves, we do not believe that moral suasion has failed. Temperance speeches may moral, or for want of time or means; but men Law may be all right enough. If its principle in it. After all that has been said and done. it seems to us that the public wants light, much it? Who among us, with our hearts set upon this great good, will receive it with all that we must take along with it when it comes to us? brought them so much more than they wished

BUSTEED, upon whose evidence Horace Preston was consigned to slavery, in 1849 was a candidate for Assistant Alderman in the 18th We do not say that the doctrine of prohibi- Ward, New York. A member of the nomition, as proposed in the "Maine Law," fails for nating committee propounded certain inter want of legal principle, or social justice. We rogatories to him, respecting his views as to are only saying that it has not yet been clearly the further extension of slavery. We subjoin

SIR: Your favor of this date, informing me that my name has been presented to your com-mittee as a candidate for Assistant Alderman of the eighteenth Ward at the ensuing election

has been received, and in accordance with your wishes I thus early reply to it, and to the interrogatory you therein address to me.

With my present views on the subject, and in the light of the best information I have been enabled to acquire, I answer that I am opposed to the extension of elavery in territory that is now free, possessed by the United States, or to free territory which our country may hereafter acquire; and I am in favor of the enactment by acquire; and I am in favor of the enactment by Congress of any ordinance, the effect of which will be to prevent the further extension of so great an evil as slavery. An ordinance such as the mind of Jefferson would have framed, whether known as the Wilmot Proviso or by any other name, would meet my hearty ap-

of the white over the African race, I am heartily opposed to the system by which man holds his fellow in servitude and perpetual bond-age. This feeling in me partakes of the na-ture of inevitable blood, as you will see when I ture of inevitable blood, as you will see when I tell you that my father, previous to his leaving St. Lucia, one of the West India islands, and long before the act of British emancipation, manumitted all the slaves which he owned during his residence there.

I am no politician, and in the obnoxious

sense of the term I trust I never shall be ; and this must be my apology if I have travelled out of the legitimate issue involved in your inter-I am, sir, with respect, yours, &c.,

To Edgar J. Leet, Esq., one of the Nominatin Committee of the Eighteenth Ward.

Like another distinguished politician, he probably discovered that "a great change has come over the public mind." Notwithstanding ual bondage," he now lends himself a willing tool to give aid and comfort to the system

the compromises between slave capital and their seats in the next Congress, to make room be done; and how shall that be avoided, in the THE PUBLIC PRINTING.—We learn that the We want more light on this side of the sub- on Printing have decided that the contractor very little that is creditable either to the head or Union newspaper. Messrs. Gorman, Stanton

THE CASE OF HORACE PRESTON

Another evidence of the practical operation of the Fugitive Slave Law has just been furarrested on a charge of larceny without process, in New York, and hurried off into Sla very in a most "summary" manner. A complaint was made on the 1st inst., before Judge Morton, United States Commissioner. A certificate was made by Richard Busteed, acting for William Reese, of Baltimore, claimant of Preston. The proceedings were hurried though, without permitting the alleged fugitive to offer rebutting evidence, and the certificate given to the claimant amid the protestations and en-

treaties of Preston's counsel. The following cards show in the clearest nanner the character of the trial, the closing one of Mr. Emmet, on whose testimony Commissioner Morton relied to substantiate his statement, confirming all that had been before stated by his associates.

CARD OF MESSRS. JAY AND CULVER. As this case, in which the public have taken some interest, was suddenly terminated this morning by Mr. Commissioner Morton giving a certificate for the delivery of the alleged fugitive to the claimant, to be removed to Maryland, without any rebutting evidence being introduced on his behalf, we deem it right to state, in justice to ourselves and as a matter proper to be known, the true facts as they oc-

On Friday, the attorney for the claimant de

chared his case closed, and we were asked by the Commissioner to proceed with the exami-nation of witnesses for the defence. It was said in reply, that before doing so, we would move to dismiss the proceedings, on the ground that the original affidavit of the attor-ney, on which the warrant was issued, and which was made, not on information and be-lief, but absolutely to the effect that Preston, a person held to service or labor in Maryland, had escaped therefrom, about the 20th March, 1847, and "that at the time of his escape, his service or labor was due to the said Reese, and that the same has ever since been due to him, and that the said Reese has never parted with and is still entitled to, such service or labor, and that he is the owner of and entitled to the control of the said Preston," was made, as appeared from the testimony of Mr. Busteed, on his cross-examination, without any personal knowledge of the facts sworn to-and that the other testimony for the claimant was utterly afficient to prove his title. It was said, fur ther, that if, upon this motion, the Court should decide that the evidence was sufficient to sup port the claim unless rebutted by proof for the defence, we had a number of witnesses in attendance, besides others whom we had not yet found, but for whom subpoenas had been issued at our application by the Commissioner, and placed for service in the hands of the Marshalbut that as our motion to dismiss the proceedings, if granted, would render their examina tion unnecessary, we proposed to argue that motion first.

This course was not objected to. The moion to dismiss the proceedings, in the nature of a motion to quash for non-suit, was argued at length with the distinct understanding, thus assented to by the Commissioner, that if that made accordingly, and to be in attendance. This morning, at the opening of the Court,

ing the motion, and granting the certificate removal, taking us altogether by surprise, and refusing to hear our protests against conduct which we regard as absolutely violative of the liberties of the defendant, and of our rights as An affidavit was then made by Mr. Busteed which we presume was an affidavit of danger, for the purpose of procuring for the claimant

Baltimore, and the payment of the expenses from the United States Treasury; but this we do not know positively, as the Commissione refused our request to be allowed to see it. Preston was immediately removed from the court-room, and soon after placed in a hack

Application for a writ of habeas corpus was made to Judge Judson, who refused to hear the motion, on the ground that he was engaged in another case.

n would have been denied, upon the ground stated by Mr. Attorney General Crittenden in his letter to Mr. Fillmore, after the passage of the Fugitive Law of 1850, that "the certificate of a Commissioner is to be regarded as the act of judgment, after a fair and impartial trial of a judicial tribunal, having competent jurisdic

How far the conduct of the Commissioner in this case, in admitting all evidence offered for the claimant, of whatever character, including an affidavit made without knowledge, and con fessions of the defendant while in duress—his refusal to compel an interested witness to an-swer on a cross-examination, and his cutting swer on a cross-examination, and his cutting off all opportunity of rebutting evidence by a snap judgment, made in violation of good faith—comports with that strict impartiality and fairness which ought to be preserved in trials involving the right to liberty, is a ques tion which the undersigned submit to the judgment of the community. E. D. CULVER. JOHN JAY.

CARD OF COMMISSIONER MORTON. I deem it a duty I owe to myself, as well a the public, to reply to the statement under the signature of Messrs. Culver and Jay, in the Post of Saturday evening. It was on Thursday, and not on Friday, that the attorney for the claimant declared his case closed; and I then claimant declared his case closed; and I then asked Messrs. Culver and Jay if they were prepared to proceed with their testimony—Mr. Culver having stated, in the morning, that he had three witnesses in attendance, and I then offered to sit until ten that evening. The counoffered to sit until ten that evening. The counsel remarked that we had been in session over six hours, and they would prefer going on with their testimony the following morning. Mr. Jay inquired of the counsel for the claimant if he had any more testimony to offer, and asked the Commissioner if he would permit the claimant to introduce further testimony; and was answered that none but rebutting testimony would be admitted. The case was then adjourned until Friday morning, when the counsel of the counter that the counter the counter that the co ourned until Friday morning, when the counsel for the fugitive were to produce their testi-

At the opening of the Court on Friday, the ounsel, Messrs Jay and Emmet (Mr. Culver not being present) had no witness in attend-ance, and subpecnas were issued to the Mar-shal to summon two witnesses—Martin and another person. The counsel for the fugitive had called Mr. Busteed to the stand, and had examined him at considerable length, when, examined him at considerable length, when, the Marshal not being able to summon the witnesses, Mr. Jay argued the case on the part of the fugitive, and Mr. Busteed on the part of the claimant; and Mr. Jay, after going to the library to obtain the books cited by the opposite counsel, closed his argument in reply; and the Commissioner reserved his decision until

the following morning.

All the papers that I have seen, in which the proceedings were reported, stated that the testimony was closed, and that certainly was the understanding of the counsel for the claimant as well as myself.

as well as myself.

That it was a mere pretext for vexatious de-lay, and that they had no testimony to offer, I infer from the fact, that after the decision was announced, Mr. Emmet, the associate counsel of Mr. Jay, stated in my office, in the presence of another gentleman, "that it would have been better to have made the offer to permit them to have gone on as they had no winger. them to have gone on, as they had no witness-es to produce, and it would not have occupied half an hour, and would have been more satisfactory to all concerned. It is worthy of remark, that the most import-

not present, and as to the correctness of which he undertakes to vouch in terms as positive as if he was speaking from personal knowledge. The decision of the Commissioner was based only on the testimony of Wm. D. Reese, and the affidavit of the attorney; and all confessions of the fugitive were wholly excluded and disregarded, as by a reference to the de

cision will be apparent. GEO. W. MORTON. CARD OF RICHARD S. EMMET.

A card from Mr. Commissioner Morton, o the subject of this case, intended as an answer to the card of Messrs. Culver and Jay, appears in the Herald of this morning. As my name is mentioned in connection with the case, I desire to state my recollection of what occurred. The first knowledge I had of the case was from the Friday morning papers, and, as a spectator, I stepped into the room where the proceedings were going on. I there found Mr. Jay, who informed me that his associate counsel. Mr. Culver, was engaged in another court sel, Mr. Culver, was engaged in another court; which left him as the only counsel for the fugitive. All my sympathies being with him, I readily volunteered to remain with him, although, knowing nothing of the facts, I did not intend to take any active part in the case.

After Mr. Busteed had left the stand, Mr. Jay, upon consultation, moved the discharge of the fugitive, on the ground of the insufficiency of the claimant's proof. This motion was ar-

the fugitive, on the ground of the insufficiency of the claimant's proof. This motion was argued at length, and Mr. Jay expressly stated, that in case the motion was denied, he would be ready to produce witnesses. There was no objection to this by either the Commissioner or the claimant's counsel; and when the adjournment was had, I considered that it was perfectly understood by all parties that the fogitive would be at liberty to call witnesses, if the motion were decided against him, and I need not would be at liberty to call witnesses, if the mo-tion were decided against him; and I need not say that I was astonished and indignant at the summary disposition of the case, in the face of an offer to produce relevant testimony. After the decision, professional business re-quired my attendance before Mr. Morton, and the conversation turned upon the recent pro-ceedings. I was earnest in my denunciation of what I considered the union expectation of an what I considered the unjust execution of an unjust law. Mr. Morton justified himself by saying, that he believed that the effect of open-ing the case would have been to detain him for

days or weeks.
I said that I did not know whether the fugitive had any witnesses, and insisted that it was offer of proof, and that it probably would not have taken half an hour to dispose of it. This was the substance of our conversation. I certainly never did assert positively, as Mr. Morton's card would intimate, that the fugitive had no witnesses. I had not been in consulta-tion with Mr. Jay or Mr. Culver, and had not been apprized of the nature of the defence. have since learned that there were witness

I would have no objection to the publication of our conversation, as it actually occurred, although I did suppose it to be a private one but I object to the impression going abroad that I in any way approved of the Commissioner's course, or of his decision.

RICHARD S. EMMET. New York, April 5, 1852

Here, then are the facts in the case, as given y Preston's counsel and the Commissioner is apparent that Commissioner Morton heard the witnesses of the claimant, closed the case and sent Preston into slavery; and there is no appeal from his decision! His counsel justly mplain of the partiality of the Commissioner. It may be worthy of remark, that about the me time that this mockery of justice was being enacted in New York, members of Congress in this city were solemnly passing resoluions to carry out the Fugitive Slave Law, and deprecating "all further agitation of the questions growing out of the Compromise," as "unnecessary, useless, and dangerous!" As though their resolutions could ignore the sense of jusism in its place. Thank God! there is a tribunal before which even members of Congress will have to answer for the manner in which they have discharged the trust confided to them; and we hope the people will hold them to a strict accountability. Now that the bugbear of "Disunion" has been exorcised, and Secession" become an obsolete idea, we think it will puzzle the ingenuity even of a member of Congress to convince his constituents that necessity requires them to become slave-catchers to save the Union from dissolution. What a mockery is it to pretend that patriotism demands that freemen shall stifle all the nobler instincts of their nature, and compel them to ioin the chase of runaway negroes, under penalty of fines and imprisonment.

A meeting of the Anti-Slavery men of the First Assembly District of Oswego county, met in Fulton on the 30th ult. J. C. HARRINGTON. of Granby, presided. The following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, That we have no hope for the success of our cause in the so-called Democratic or Whig parties; for the first is the natural ally of Slavery and the Slave Power, and the second is the source of all compromise, from the commencement of our Government to the present time—in other words, always sacrificing principle to comfort and solace wrong.

"Resolved, That we accept as a basis of operation the platform presented to the People of the United States by a National Convention held at Cleveland, Ohio, last September, and which comes to us through the columns of the National Era, under date of October 9, 1851."

[The resolutions of the Cleveland Convention of the Cleveland Conventions of the Clevel "Resolved That we have no hope for the

[The resolutions of the Cleveland Convention are then quoted.] " Resolved, That as organization is necessary

we will appoint the usual county and town committees, also a delegate and substitute, to attend a State Convention, whenever held, and that we recommend to our friends in all the Assembly districts to do the same."

Rev. S. Hoes was appointed the State dele gate, and C. G. Case, alternate. We are pleased to see that the People are organizing in their primary assemblies, and en-

tertain the hope that the movement will be vigorously prosecuted. "Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty." MISSOURI.-The Democratic State Conver ion met at Jefferson City, and adjourned sine die on the 7th. STERLING PRICE was nomina-

ted for Governor, and a State ticket, composed equally of Benton and anti-Benton men. Resplutions were adopted in favor of the Baltimore platform of 1848, and the Compromise measures. Montgomery Blair was chosen delegate to the National Convention, with instructions to support Cass and Bufler MASSACHUSETTS .- A select committe of the

House of Representatives of this State have reslaves. Should this bill become a law, it must result in a collision between the Federal and State Governments, and will test the constitu-

State Governments, and will test the constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law.

Texas.—The Whig and Democratic State Conventions of this State have passed resolutions to adhere to the Compromise measures. The former passed a resolution complimentary to the Administration of Mr. Fillmore, and the latter resolved to support the nominee of the latter resolved to support the nominee of the Baltimore Convention. As the Democracy of Texas agree with the Whigs in relation to the Compromise, we would like to know upon what questions they disagree. Their principles being substantially the same, the contest, we pressure to which the engineer shall support to be used for purposes of steam-power, to three times the pressure to which the engineer shall support to be used for purposes of steam-power, to three times the pressure to which the engineer shall support to be used for purposes of steam when suddenly accumulating.

Clarke, whose term will expire on the 4th of March, 1853.

CONNECTICUT.—The returns of the recent election in this State show that Thomas H. Seymour, Democrat, is elected Governor by the people over all others, by about six hundred majority. The Democrats have also elected fourteen Senators, and the Whigs seven. In

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSIONS

the House, the Democrats have thirty-five ma

jority, and forty-two on joint ballot. This so,

cures a Democratic United States Senator to

fill the present vacancy.

The recent frequency of the explosion of steam coilers has become a subject of general remark and it is astonishing what apathy exists in re ation to the cause of these explosions. That they are produced by natural causes, which might be avoided by judicious management on the part of the officers and engineers, we think can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of every intelligent mind; but, in the majority of in stances, no blame attaches to any one when a boat is blown up, and the guilty parties usually escape without detection and without punish ment. Let us enumerate some of the explosions which have taken place since the com nencement of the present year:

Jan. 11. The Magnolia burst her boilers near St. Simmonds Island (Savannah)-13 kill. ed and 11 wounded. Jan. 14. The George Washington burst her

poilers near Grand Gulf-15 killed and of

Jan. 24. The Peter Miller burst her boilers at the mouth of White river-several killed

and 10 deck hands scalded. March 1. The Mary Kingsland burst her poilers near New Orleans-4 killed and three

wounded March 18. The Pocahontas burst ber boil ers near Memphis 8 killed and 15 or 20

March 31. The Buckeye State burst a steam pipe near Wheeling-1 killed and 4 wounded April 3. The Red Stone burst three of her poilers near Madison, Indiana-35 killed, number of wounded not stated. She sank in three

minutes. The ladies' cabin floated and burnt to the water's edge. April 3. The Glencoe, of New Orleans. burst her boilers near St. Louis. She had 150 passengers, a large number of whom were kill-

ed. The Glencoe took fire and burnt to the water's edge. April 9. The Saluda exploded her boilers near Lexington, Mo, A large number of Mornons were on board-100 lives are supposed

to be lost. Here is the fearful record of the loss of life on these nine boats since the commencement of the year 1852. Ought not something to be done to prevent this waste of human lives? The question arises, what can be done to prevent these explosions? This inquiry is worthy of serious attention. A gentleman, Mr. Alfred Guthrie, a practical engineer of Chicago, Ill., has submitted to the Senate a memorial setting forth the results of an investigation made by him into the causes of the explosion of steam boilers, which has been printed for the use of

that body, and which we commend to the attention of the public generally. We copy his Recapitulation of the principal causes tending to produce explosions of steam boilers. 1st. Using iron of an improper thickness, or that of an inferior quality, in the construction of boil-

steam and water pipes, and parts of boilers.

2d. Using boilers defective in form or work manship, ineffectually stay-bolted or fastened and also, using boilers weakened by age or use 3d. Employment of incompetent, reckless,

ath. Using in the construction of steamboats, boilers, engines, paddle-wheels, and machinery, without proper regard to the relative proportions which should exist between the different

parts of the whole.

5th. Using inefficient or ansuitable pumping 5th. Using inefficient or ansuitable pumping apparatus, and not providing for free and open passages for the water to the boiler, and afterwards for the exit of the steam to the engines 6th. In not providing a suitable or a sufficient number of safety-valves for the free and full discharge of steam when suddenly accumula-

ting.
7th. Want of a proper and suitable syste 7th. Want of a proper and suitable system or mode of inspection of steam-boilers, engines, and machinery; want of suitable and uniform instruments for testing, by hydrostatic pressure, the actual powers of resistance of every boiler brought into use; and also an entire want of laws requiring an inspection of boiler-iron, or material for the construction of boilers.

material for the construction of boilers.

8th. Want of competent and faithful inspectors, clothed with sufficient authority to regulate the conduct of engineers, and the management and general arrangement of engines and machinery, with power to establish a limit to excessive pressure, within the capabilities of the boilers to withstand it.

9th. Want of a board of supervising engineers, whose duty it is to exercise a general surveillance over all boats or vessels navigated in whole or in part by steam within the incidiation of

or in part by steam, within the jurisdiction of the United States; and also to exercise a like surveillance over boards of inspection, conduct of engineers, and others in charge of steam-engines.

Enumeration of the causes tending to produce

explosions through the conduct of those in charge.

1st. Allowing water to get low in the boilers, through negligence, carelessness, or design.

2d. Overloading the safety-valve, and permitting a dangerous accumulation of steam, for the purpose of racing or wanten display.

3d. Through negligence in not blowing of

steam when lying at a landing, or when the e gines are not in motion.

Remedies proposed.—1st. Require that, in the manufacture of all steam-boilers hereafter to be made, the best material shall be used, and that of a proper thickness; abandon as far as possible the use of cast iron in any part of boilers, steam or water pipes, where they are likely

to be subjected to great pressure.

2d. Never allow the use of a defective boiler in any case, whether it be defective in form,

workmanship, age, or use.

3d.-Employ competent, prudent, and careful engineers, granting certificates to those who are worthy, and prohibiting the employment of the incompetent and intemperate from running engines where life or property may be endan-

gered.
4th Instruct the board of supervising en gineers, as soon as may be practicable recommend or establish such relative pro tions between all the parts of boilers, engines paddle-wheels, pumps, and machinery, as will insure in the best manner safety of life and prop-erty; also, to establish such rules and regulations for the conduct of engineers and manage ment of engines as will give, as near as ma House of Representatives of this State have reported, through Mr. Sewall, a bill for the further protection of personal liberty, giving a trial by jury to persons claimed as fugitive slaves. Should this bill become a law it must slaves. Should this bill become a law it must be observed by the different boards of rules to be observed by the different boards of rule inspection, to equalize as far as possible the operation of any laws which may be hereafter enacted, and to see that all are faithfully and

RHODE ISLAND.—At the election on the 7th inst., Gov. Allen (Dem.) was elected by about 300 majority. The Whigs have 2 majority in the Senate and 8 in the House, which secures them a United States Senator in place of Mr.